# Getting To Zero, an effort to End the HIV Epidemic Agenda

Meeting Details			
Day/Time	Tuesday, February 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2020 / 6:00 – 8:00 PM		
Location	2845 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte (Health Department Multi-Purpose Room)		
Meeting goals	<ol> <li>Provide input to the grant proposal in response to Notice of Funding Agreement PS20-2010.</li> <li>Linkage to care data: understand length of time from diagnosis to linkage and discuss strategies to reduce gaps.</li> <li>Provide support for molecular cluster investigation as a response activity for the Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan.</li> </ol>		

#### **Agenda**

Topic	Presenter	Time
Welcome/introductions	Wesley Thompson, G2Z Co-lead	6:00 PM - 6:10 PM
Linkage to Care	Dr. Robinson, APHI-UNCC	6:10 PM – 6:30 PM
Molecular Cluster Investigation	Dr. Erika Samoff, DHHS/Donna Smith, MCPH	6:30 PM – 6:50 PM
NOFO PS20-2010 /Grant Proposal	Michael Kennedy, MCPH	6:50 PM – 7:50 PM
Complete evaluation	All	7:50– 8:00 PM
Adjourn	Wesley Thompson	8 PM

#### Minutes:

#### **Time to Linkage to Care**

length of time to link newly diagnosed HIV positive individuals varies across agencies diagnosing HIV. The shortest linkage to care is seen in hospitals. Emergency rooms and blood plasma centers have the longest time to link to care .

The group recommended that MCPH hire a Linkage to Care Specialist who will work with Blood Plasma Centers and ERs to link newly diagnosed individuals to care.

It was also recommended that barriers to linkage to care be further analyzed and addressed. Continuous provider education of the importance of Test and Treat was emphasized.

## Getting To Zero, an effort to End the HIV Epidemic Agenda

### **Molecular Cluster Investigation**

Dr. Sammoff presented on the work the State is doing to reduce late HIV diagnosis, improve linkage to care and prevent new HIV diagnosis through molecular cluster investigation. The group supported the idea and suggested this be incorporated as a EHE strategy to address late linkage to care and improve re-engagement of clients into care.

#### NOFO PS20-2010 / Grant Proposal

The NOFO was presented in detail and everyone was encouraged to share innovative ideas that could be included in the grant proposal. Mike Kennedy also shared ideas suggested by Mecklenburg County Staff for feedback.